August 2023 News

Wabanaki REACH
Greetings from your Friends at Wabanaki REACH!

We hope you have been able to indulge in sweet summer time pleasures. We are easing back into full work mode following our 3rd annual July Respite where we encourage our valued staff to slow down, enjoy, and relax. This month we continue rehearsing *where the river widens*, a community-devised play created as part of our truth telling project *Beyond the Claims: Stories from the Land and the Heart*. We are excited to begin planning for our first performances which are expected to take place September 15-17 in the Penobscot community of Indian Island. Stay tuned for more information! Overall, our work remains steady in all areas – maintaining connection with Native relatives incarcerated in Maine prisons through circles, sweat lodge ceremonies, and regular mailouts of The Messenger newsletters; growing our programming team with committed volunteers, and expanding our educational outreach with Maine educators on a cultural tourism trip with Penobscot Nation Cultural and Historic Preservation Department. There is no shortage of good work to be done and it remains a true honor to be on this journey of truth, healing, and change. Kci weliwoni, “great thanks” for your ongoing support.
Call for Papers

Are you a writer of original articles, essays, poetry, or prose? Do you want to share your thoughts about truth, healing, and change with the Wabanaki REACH community?

We invite you and all writers, especially young people, to submit your words to be considered for inclusion in our monthly publication of the blog *Voices of Decolonization*.

We are seeking contributions from a wide range of topics related to decolonization including, but not limited to:

- Education
- Food sovereignty/ traditional food and medicines
- Peace and restoration/ peacemaking
- Child welfare, well-being and child rearing
- Art and healing
- Restorative justice/ restorative practices
- Wabanaki sense of place
- Faith/spirituality
- History

We will accept submissions of 800-1200 words in length, preferably in Microsoft Word format until December 15, 2023, via email at wabanakireach@gmail.com.

Please email any questions to: kerr.jp2020@gmail.com.

Authors of selected submissions will be entered into a drawing to win one of three $100 gift cards. Winners will be notified on December 18, 2023.

Read the blog here: [Voices of Decolonization](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=6098647e0e&view=pt&search=a...).

Tribal Celebrations

Summer brings tribal communities together to celebrate culture and community. These celebrations may include a public event, please see each tribe's website for more information.

[https://www.penobscotnation.org/](https://www.penobscotnation.org/)
Prison POD Podcast

We support the podcast “Prison POD” by Valerie Cartonio. Prison POD podcast is for people who are in jail or prison, and/or affected by incarceration. This podcast uses Sociology and Peace Studies to: Save Lives, Restore Hope, Reduce Suffering and Recidivism. Host Valerie Cartonio has over 20 years experience working inside several jails and prisons, providing education in substance abuse prevention, doing HIV testing and counseling, reentry planning, inmate advocacy, and mentoring. This work brought her and her podcast team into different areas of people’s lives including coming home, marriages, births, court, jail visits and death.

Her passion for change led to the production of this podcast. In March 2022, Prison POD podcast was added to EDOVO tablets (part of the Jail Education Solutions) and was available in correctional facilities around the country. As of March 21, 2023, the podcast is no longer on EDOVO. The prisons are charging fees to place the programming on the prison tablets. This program is invaluable to many who are incarcerated as well as others, to be available to prisoners.

If you would like to donate to Prison POD podcast so this program can be available in correctional facilities in Maine and around the country, donations can be sent to the following address:

Valerie L. Cartonio
PO Box 294
Orono, ME  04473

There is a Facebook page for friends and families- https://www.facebook.com/PeacefulSociologist

We hope you join us in supporting this work.

Blog: Voices of Decolonization

This month we offer you the essay where the river widens by Beyond the Claims project coordinator, Kate Russell. “As summer takes its usual flight— right on by— I wanted to slow down for a moment to reconnect with you. There is so much beauty
emerging at every turn of our theatremaking journey on the People's Island—so much that it is hard to know how or what to share with you here. But I'll try..."

Visit our website to read the rest of this post and more.

**Limited Series: Decolonizing Human Resources**

Follow Wabanaki REACH's new committee on their journey to reshape Human Resource management to operate with intention, dignity and common values.

This month we offer the essay "Human Resources to Growth and Support: How REACH does HR (Vol. 1)" by Andrea Francis. "I have been connected with Wabanaki REACH since 2017, first as a Graduate Assistant, a volunteer, a temporary employee, and most recently as the newly appointed Assistant Director. In this role, developing our policies around Human Resources tops an important list of priorities our committee has faced since its formation in August of last year. Previously combined with the Finance committee, but as REACH has grown, so too has the need to develop Human Resources..."

Visit our website to read the rest of this post and more.

Wabanaki REACH
[https://www.wabanakireach.org/](https://www.wabanakireach.org/)
This email was sent to . To stop receiving emails, click here.
You can also keep up with Wabanaki REACH on Facebook.

Created with NationBuilder, software for leaders.